

10/553,970

In re VASILESCU, et al.

Reply to Office Action of February 22, 2008

Please amend the specification as follows:

At page 1, please delete line 1 reading “INTERNATIONAL PATENT APPLICATION NO. PCT/FR2004/001291.”

At page 1, please delete line 3 (FIELD OF THE INVENTION) and insert in its place the following headings and paragraph:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application is a Section 371 National Stage Application of International Application No. PCT/FR2004/001291, filed May 25, 2005 and published as WO 2004/106747, in French.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

Please amend page 1, line 9 as follows:

~~CURRENT STATE OF THE ART~~ Description of Related Art

Please amend page 5, line 9 as follows:

~~DISCUSSION~~ SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please amend page 7, line 14 as follows:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING(S)

10/553,970

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Please amend page 8 of the application to insert the following paragraphs between lines 6 and 7:

--Figure 7 shows still another example of a pre-balanced fan according to the invention.

Figures 8a and 8b show still further examples of pre-balanced fans according to the invention.

Figure 9 shows an axial view of a fan mounted on a rotor with balancing holes according to an embodiment of the invention.

Figure 10 shows an example of a fan with a de-centered bore according to an embodiment of the invention.--

Please amend the paragraph at page 9, line 17 to page 10, line 5 as follows:

In the invention, it is sought to bring the centre of gravity of the fan to the point of origin O. For this purpose, the distribution of the mass of the fan is modified by adding or removing material in the fan. In practice and as shown in Fig. 7, this modification of the distribution of mass is achieved by withdrawing material from within the fan, thereby creating thinned zones or even apertures, and/or by adding elements increasing the thickness of material on the material, or special forms in the pressing out of the blades. More precisely, the modification of the distribution of mass is performed on the plate portion of the fan. It can also be envisaged that removals or additions of material on the fan blades be carried out, for

10/553,970

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example by forming chamfers on the said blades.

Please amend the paragraph at page 11, line 14 to page 12, line 3 as follows:

FIG. 5 shows the balancing of a double fan, which is made for example by superimposing two metal fans on each other. A double fan is described for example in the document FR 2 741 912. In accordance with the same principle constituting the invention, the balancing operation is carried out by adding material 14a, 14b, 14c, 14d, 14e to the blades of the lower fan 20 and/or to the blades of the upper fan 21, the lower fan being the one which is placed against the rotor of the electrical machine. In this case, material 15 is removed, for example in the form of a hole or a reduction in the thickness of the material, and this removal may be carried out on either one of the two fans or on both of them, and not necessarily in the same zone, as shown in Figs. 8a and 8b. Thus, if for example it is done by forming holes, they are not necessarily superimposed on each other.

Please amend the paragraph at page 12, lines 9-15 as follows:

It is also preferably arranged that the pre-balanced fan according to the invention should be mounted in such a way that it is off centre with respect to the axis of rotation, whereby its centre of gravity is coincident with the axis of rotation of the rotor. This ~~decentring~~ de-centering enables errors, arising from manufacturing tolerances in the use of the tooling used for making the fan, to be corrected. The ~~said decentring~~ de-centering enables balancing of the fan on the rotor of the rotary electrical machine to be adjusted in the best

10/553,970

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possible way. Fig. 10 illustrates an embodiment of a de-centered fan, in which the central bore 40 is de-centered so as to bring the axis of rotation of the machine in coincidence with the center of gravity of the fan.

Please amend the paragraph at page 13, lines 11-20 as follows:

Very clearly the invention is not limited to an electrical machine having a claw-type motor, being for example an alternator of the Lundell type. The electrical machine such as an alternator may, while still being within the scope of the invention, be equipped for example with a rotor of the salient pole type, such as that described for example in the document WO02/054566. In that case, the balancing or pre-balancing of the rotor is made in the same way as for a claw-type motor, that is to say by forming holes in the axial ends of the rotor by means of drilling tools. Thus, thanks to the invention, balancing holes 25 formed in the rotor can be situated in line with fan blades, the rotor having been balanced before the pre-balanced fan is fitted on the rotor, as shown in Fig. 9.